



SO THIS IS
ME WHEN I
WAS A KID.

NO, NOT
THERE...



...THERE.

GIBBON

THOUGH YOU
WOULDN'T BE
THE FIRST
PERSON TO MAKE
THAT MISTAKE.

IT'S AN OLD,
NOT-FUNNY
JOKE.

TOK



AW NO--
MARTY! I'M SORRY,
MAN--I THOUGHT
YOU WERE THE
MONKEY!

YOU SEE
HOW EASY IT
IS TO GET YOU
TWO MIXED
UP.

L-LEAVE
ME ALONE.

WHY? YOU NEED
SOME PRIVATE TIME
WITH YOUR *SWEETHEART*
HERE? HEY, IS THAT WHY
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU DO?
MAYBE YOUR DAD HAD
A THING FOR--



DON'T
TALK ABOUT
MY DAD!

WHOOOA,
FELLAS--
WILD ANIMAL ON
THE LOOSE. WE
BETTER CORRAL
'IM--

LOOK
OUT! HE'S
FERAL!



HA HA
HA HA

I'M NOT
AN ANIMAL...
I'M NOT...

HA HA
HA HA

THAT **LAUGHTER**. YOU
KNOW, I COULD TAKE THE
BEATINGS, I COULD TAKE
THE TAUNTS, BUT I COULD
NEVER TAKE THE LAUGHTER.

GUESS NOT
MUCH HAS
CHANGED.

WE
GOT ONE,
BOYS!

YEAH, BUT
WHICH ONE?
APE-MAN?
GORILLA-
MAN?

UH--
UH, HEY,
GUYS--

--I'M THE
GIBBON.

HA
HA

WHAT'S A
GIBBON?

IT'S, UH,
A KIND OF
A LESSER
APE--

--IT DOESN'T MATTER.
LOOK, WHATEVER IT IS
YOU ALL WANT--

WHAT WE
WANT? HEH. LET
ME STOP YA RIGHT
THERE, SON. WHAT
I WANT--

BLAM
BLAM

BLAM

--IS YOU
MOUNTED
AND STUFFED
IN MY DEN.

OKAY, TALKING
IT OUT DIDN'T
WORK.



THEN AGAIN, I GUESS I WAS NEVER GOOD AT TALKING MUCH. THERE WAS ONLY ONE THING I WAS EVER GOOD AT, REALLY--



--EVER SINCE I WAS A KID. ANYTIME I WAS SCARED, OR IN TROUBLE, I COULD GET AWAY TO THIS.



THE TREES, THE ROOFTOPS, THE OPEN SKY...



IT'S THE ONLY PLACE I EVER FELT SAFE.



AND HEY, YOU KNOW ALL THOSE STORIES ABOUT KIDS WHO WERE PUSHED AROUND GROWING UP, AND THEN THEY WENT ON TO DO GREAT THINGS WHILE THEIR BULLIES GOT WHAT THEY DESERVED?



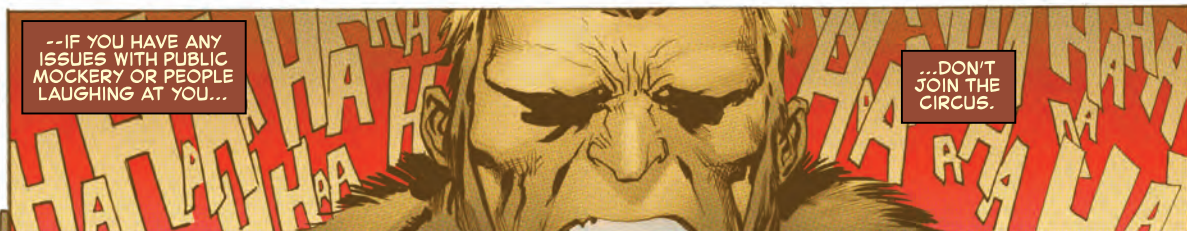
WELL, THAT'S NOT WHAT HAPPENED TO ME.

IN FACT, I HEARD A COUPLE OF THOSE OLD BULLIES ENDED UP GETTING REALLY NICE GIGS ON WALL STREET. ONE OF THEM STARTED HIS OWN HEDGE FUND.

ME?



I TOOK THE ONLY JOB I COULD GET. WORD TO THE WISE--



--IF YOU HAVE ANY ISSUES WITH PUBLIC MOCKERY OR PEOPLE LAUGHING AT YOU...

...DON'T JOIN THE CIRCUS.

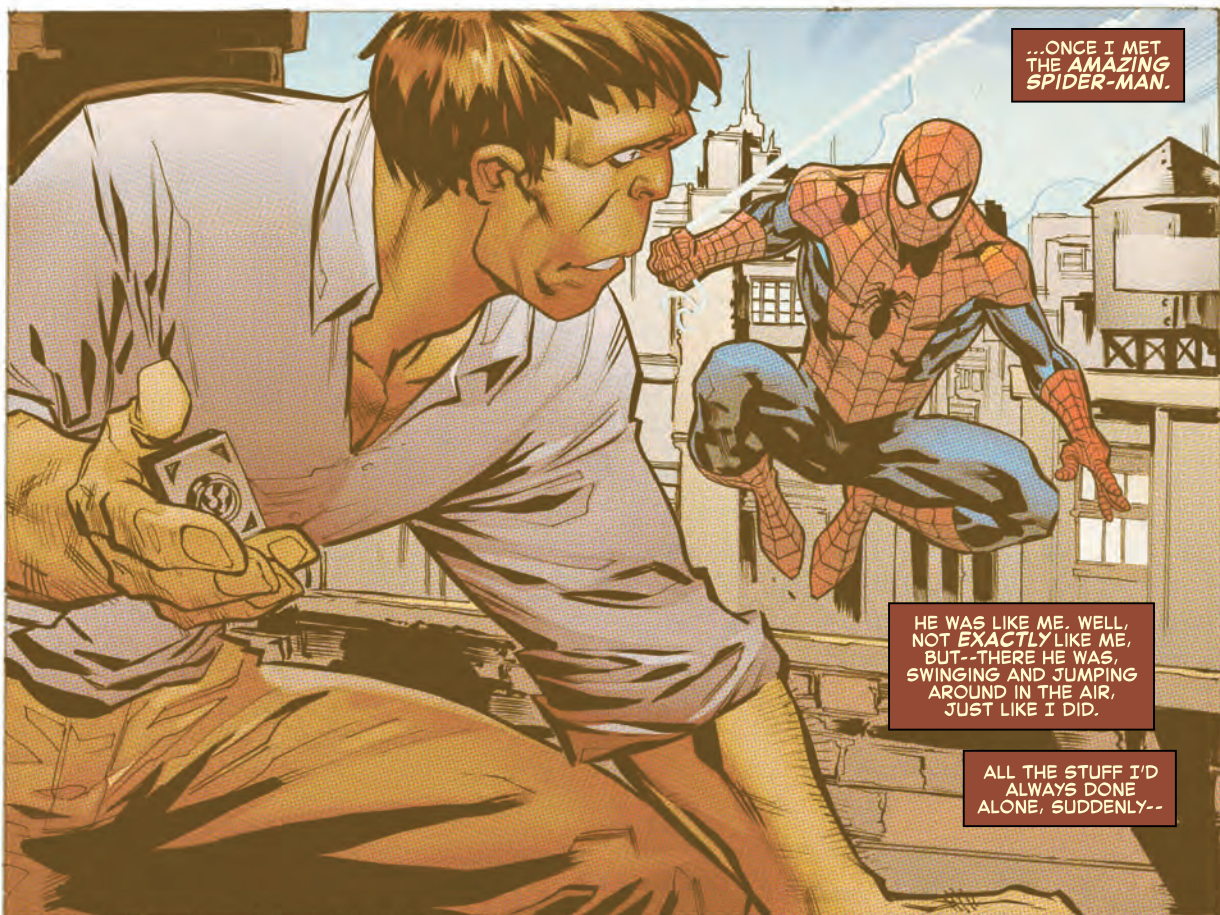


AFTER I GOT FIRED, I ENDED UP IN A FLOPHOUSE, SHARING A BATHROOM WITH A DOZEN OTHER GUYS.

IT WAS PRETTY AWFUL--

--BUT IT HAD A GREAT ROOFTOP. AND THAT'S WHERE I'D GO EVERY NIGHT.

THAT'S WHERE EVERYTHING CHANGED...



...ONCE I MET
THE AMAZING
SPIDER-MAN.

HE WAS LIKE ME. WELL,
NOT EXACTLY LIKE ME,
BUT--THERE HE WAS,
SWINGING AND JUMPING
AROUND IN THE AIR,
JUST LIKE I DID.

ALL THE STUFF I'D
ALWAYS DONE
ALONE, SUDDENLY--

--THERE WAS
SOMEONE
ELSE.

I READ ALL ABOUT
HIM. WATCHED EVERY
NEWS BROADCAST
FOR A SIGHTING OF
HIM. I GOT A LITTLE,
UM, OBSESSED.



BUT I KNEW I
WAS MORE THAN
JUST SOME FAN.
THIS WAS MY
OPPORTUNITY.

FOR THE FIRST TIME
IN MY LIFE, I HAD A CHANCE
TO MAKE A FRIEND. NO,
MORE THAN A FRIEND--



--A PARTNER.

I STILL HAD MY
CIRCUS SUIT, AND
I DECIDED TO TRY
AND PUT IT TO
SOME GOOD USE.

I'D STALK AROUND
THE CITY, TRYING
TO FIND HIM. AND
ONCE I DID--



--I'D MAKE HIM MY BIG
OFFER. WE COULD FIGHT
CRIME TOGETHER. BE
GOOD GUYS TOGETHER.

SWING
THROUGH THE
CITY TOGETHER.
YEAH--

